Minister's Visit to Gulf Countries

1693. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State in his Ministry recently visited six Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, what was the purpose of his visit and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Minister of State of External Affairs, Shri A. A. Rahim, visited Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Fmirates and the Yemen Arab Republic during the period May, 1983 to June 10, 1983.

(b) The Prime objective of the Minister's visit to the Gulf countries was to maintain the high level of contacts that we have had with these friendly countries. The tour was therefore essentially one for fostering further goodwill.

The Minister of State took the opportunity during his tour to look at the conditions of Indian workers in the Gulf, the functioning of our Embassies, especially the Consular Sections, and finally to see how India's economic and commercial interests could be further strengthened.

The visit resulted in strengthening the friendly relations existing with these countries, and also gave a boost to India's economic and commercial cooperation with them.

Impact of imported electronic components on prices

1694. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of electronic components imported from Japan in 1983-84; and

(b) the impact of these imported components on the price of electronic goods in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

International Law and Conventions on Hijacking of Aeroplanes

1695. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to approach the United Nations to adopt international law and conventions for preventing hijacking of aeroplanes and to render all possible assistance to the victimised country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir. There already exist three international multilateral treaties for the suppression of hijacking and other unlawful acts against the safety of civil aviation. These Conventions are:

(i) The Tokyo Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (1963);

(ii) The Hague Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (1970); and

(iii) Montreal Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (1971).

As of August 1983, 115, 117, 117 countries are Parties to Tokyo, the Hague and the Montreal Conventions, respectively. India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, among